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Fine Art

Unit 3

How can the repetition of hand imagery represent the progression of time?

Statement of Intent

During the previous unit, I was introduced to Christian Marclay's works and became particularly intrigued by his piece *The Clock*. I loved the idea of showing progression of time with an object such as a clock, rather than traditional montage techniques used in film. In a way, the very thing he used as a device for connection became defamiliarized and disconnected. For this project, I aim to explore this idea further. Instead of using clock imagery, I want to investigate hand gestures and movements by connecting variations genres of art such as photography, drawing and collages. My ambition, through video montage, is to produce multiple fluid sequences that tell a story using hand imagery of the physical and mental transformation that takes place with time.

The initial stages of my project will be spent exploring and playing with different media and attempting to establish which medium works best to convey each individual message. A lot of time will be spent taking photos of assorted hand gestures. For example, I could use part of dance moves associated with different cultures, as well as gestures in sign language. These expressions can have different interpretations and meanings in different contexts. Once I have explored and built a portfolio of photographs, sketches, and other experiments, I will attempt to synthesize that collection into films that are connected by a single element to represent the advancement of time.

One of the main focuses for this project will be for me to go into greater detail of contextualization and applying what I have learned from my research, whether that is research on particular artists or research concerning various techniques. Furthermore, I want to research and expand my knowledge of sound and music within film. The presence and even the absence of sound can create powerful emotions that cannot be established through images. Sound can create tension and unease, as well happiness and peace of mind. By analyzing the use of sound in artists' works, such as John Cage, I aim to enhance my own

knowledge of sound in film. John Cage's use of silence has a particularly powerful effect, in that he has an orchestra completely defy the expectations of a traditional setting. His emphasis on breath and intensity is heightened by the use of muteness. Being a musician myself, I aim to explore the importance of silence in my own work as well.

In addition to exploring the progression of time within hand gestures, I seek to discern the significance of repetition in both sound and movement in conveying time. Repetition can be present in a technical aspect, in the camera movement, in lighting, in a musical phrase, and in an object. In music, repetition can be seen as a meter or metronome, in which a second or a minute is a set interval. A specific moment or sound could therefore be reflected in an exact interval, like a metronome. Through numerous approaches, including repetition and hand imagery, I aspire to create fluent movement within my work.